

**FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
MAY 1995
TAG REVIEW DATE: 23 JULY 1997**

1. SITE NAME: Carlsbad Army Air Field

SITE NUMBER: K06NM034200

LOCATION:

City: Carlsbad
County: Eddy
State: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM034200

CATEGORY:OE/CWM

INPR RAC: 1

ASR RAC: 1

TAG RAC: 1

2. POC's:

TECHNICAL MANAGER:

Name: Richard L. Pike
Office: CEHNC-OE-DC
Phone: 256-895-1559

GEO DISTRICT POC:

Name: Cheryl Buckel
Office: CESWA-PP-M
Phone: 505-342-3208

GEO DIVISION POC:

Name: Jim Harrigan
Office: CESWD-PP-M
Phone: 214-767-2403

HEADQUARTERS POC:

Name: James Huang
Office: CEMP-RF
Phone: 202-761-8883

SUPPORT DISTRICT (ASR) POC:

Name: Rochelle Ross
Office: CELMS-PM-M
Phone: 314-331-8784

ASR REVIEW POC:

Name: Sally Parsons
Office: CEHNC-ED-SY-T
Phone: 205-895-1887

3. SITE DESCRIPTION: Carlsbad Army Air Field consisted of 2,362.47 acres of which 2,202.47 acres were acquired by lease and 160.00 were acquired by Letter Permit from the Department of Interior. The ordnance area was located across

Highway 62 and consisted of 661.87 acres leased from various private land owners. The airfield was located about five miles south of the center of the City of Carlsbad.

4. SITE HISTORY: The land comprising the airfield was acquired in 1942. In 1946, the WAA declared it excess to the needs of the government. Prior to disposal, in 1947, a letter of clearance and a certificate of dedudding were issued. Located on the base were a rifle range with firing berms, a skeet range, an ordnance area (located across the highway), a demonstration target, a gas chamber, and a chemical demonstration area around the gas chamber. Small arms, pyrotechnics, chemicals, and segregated storage areas were in the ordnance area. Small arms were used on the rifle, pistol, machine gun and skeet ranges west of the runways. Practice bombs filled with sand and concrete were dropped on the exhibition target in the northwest corner of the base. Chemical training occurred in the field around the gas chamber. Chemical warfare materials such as chlorine, tear gas, and chemical identification sets were used. Personnel also witnessed the decontamination of blister gas, first aid, and use of incendiaries. Chlorine and tear gas were used in the gas chamber.

Only ammo boxes have been uncovered (reported non hazardous) within the former ordnance area. None have been reported being found on the airfield. While on the site inspection, several expended small arms ammunition were located in the firing berm area and scrap from practice bombs were located within the Dark Canyon in the Demonstration Target area. Around the gas chamber, remnants of chemical warfare material including smoke grenades and the use of chlorpicrin were discovered. Evidence of practice bombs (mechanical fuzes) were found in the ordnance area during the site visit.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
All acreage is approximate.

AREA "Gas Chamber Area"

Size, Acres:	98
Former Use:	Gas chamber/chemical demonstration area
Present Use:	Unknown
Probable End Use:	Unknown
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	Smoke grenades, fuzes and chlorpicrin caps

AREA "Machine Gun Firing Berms"

Size, Acres:	9
Former Use:	Small arms practice
Present Use:	Unknown/berms have been levelled
Probable End Use:	Unknown
Ordnance Presence:	Potential for complete rounds

Type: Site Team found small
arms casings (.22-
cal, .30-cal, .32 cal,
.38-cal, and .45-cal)
and lead bullets
(.22-cal, .32-cal,
and .45-cal)

AREA "Skeet Range"

Size, Acres:
Former Use: Skeet range
Present Use: Unknown
Probable End Use: Unknown
Ordnance Presence: **Uncontaminated**

AREA "Demonstration Target"

***This area is located outside the FUDS boundary.**

Size, Acres: 15
Former Use: Practice bombing demo target
Present Use: Owned by Constructors,
Inc. / Portion leased
for mining (crushed
stone and rock)
since 1970
Probable End Use: May expand mining further
into target area/
appears portion of
target already
mined
Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Practice bomb casings and fuzes

AREA "Ordnance Area"

Size, Acres: 660
Former Use: Storage for chemicals and
conventional
ordnance
Present Use: Privately owned/portions
use for brine water
and natural gas
pumping
Probable End Use: Same as Present Use

Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Mechanical fuzes/ erosion
has uncovered
empty ammunition
boxes in the past

6. CURRENT STATUS: A draft Archive Search Report was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in May 1995.

7. STRATEGY:

Request Demonstration Target be included in this project.

Confirmed OE Areas -

Gas chamber area: EE/CA
Demonstration target: EE/CA
Ordnance area: EE/CA

Potential OE Areas -

Firing berms: NOFA (Potential is for complete small arms only)

Uncontaminated -

Skeet Range: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

ID KITS: The airfield also had war gas identification sets issued to it. The location of these after the based closed is unknown.

Possible Jeep Target Range: The ASR also mentions the presence of an oval track outside of the airfield property boundary lines, one section north of the ordnance area. This is said to resemble a jeep target range and apparently is visible in the 1957 photos. The ASR reports that by 1983 the oval track is mostly housing. In an interview with the City Administrator, the ASR team was told that there have been several dirt bike tracks in the area and this may have been the location of a horse training facility and not a jeep target range.

There is an extensive number of Federally- and State-listed species which may occur in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities. See page 4-2 in the Findings for a listing of affected species.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only

FILENAME: MM039200.DOC
 DIRECTORY: D:\PROGRAM FILES\ADOBE\ADOBE
 4.0\ADOBE\TALING\INSTRUMENTAL\TRANSFORM\TEMA
 TEMPLATE: D:\PROGRAM
 FILES\TEMPLATES\NORMAL.DOT
 TITLE: FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FADS)
 SUBJECT:
 AUTHOR: AOPMM266
 KEYWORDS:
 COMMENTS:
 CREATION DATE: 02/28/00 9:06 AM
 CHANGE NUMBER: 2
 LAST SAVED ON: 02/28/00 9:06 AM
 LAST SAVED BY: AOPMM266
 TOTAL EDITING TIME: 0 MINUTES
 LAST PRINTED ON: 02/28/00 9:42 AM
 AS OF LAST COMPLETE PRINTING
 NUMBER OF PAGES: 4
 NUMBER OF WORDS: 914
 NUMBER OF CHARACTERS: 4,720